

Utah Lake Fish Stories

“To catch fish, men would take grapple hooks. When they jerked the hooks thru the water, they would pierce the fish and then the fishermen would pull them up. I saw many piles of fish, any one of which would fill a wagon box.” Clarence Merrill 1850 Utah Lake: Legacy page 42

“Fish-A wagon load of fine trout, caught in Utah Lake, off the mouth of the Provo, by P. Madsen, was opposite the Exchange Buildings on Saturday, and was the centre of considerable attraction to lovers of the finny tribe, who invested in great numbers in the fish. There were over a thousand pounds weight of trout in the wagon. Deseret News July 12, 1866.

“Fish of Utah Lake-Superintendent Tulian Reports on their Condition

He Find that Trout Have Not Done Well, Because of Low Water-Carp in Thriving Condition.

Superintendent E.A. Tulian of the United States Fish commission is a guest at the Knutsford. He has been investigating Utah lake with state Fish and Game Commissioner Sharp, and said yesterday: ‘We found the lake trout had done poorly, because of the low and consequently muddy water; and then the carp, which have thriven immensely, have eaten off the mosses and similar growth along the bottom of the lake, so that the trout have not had enough to eat.

Carp are a good deal like the English sparrow-once they get into a place they are there to stay. I believe that if Utah lake was dried off for the next three years, and then water turned in, there would be found live carp left over to populate the new lake.

The black bass have thrive and done well. They are a good fish. I hope means will be found to increase the water in Utah Lake. As the Government engineers suggest, turning part of the Duchesne river into the Provo river would be a good thing.' Mr. Tulian will return to Utah lake in a day or two to give the situation further study." Salt Lake Tribune August 24, 1901.